New Jersey Department of Human Services

Division of Developmental Disabilities

Overview of Services



James M. Davy Commissioner

Division of Developmental Disabilities

The New Jersey Department of Human Services' Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) arranges and coordinates needed services to eligible state residents who have severe developmental disabilities. DDD's mission is to assist people with developmental disabilities to live as independently as possible. DDD serves over 33,000 individuals, about half of whom live at home with their families. Of the remaining individuals served, nearly 7,000 people are in living arrangements funded and licensed by the division. These arrangements are operated by either private agencies or by individuals under contract with DDD. Approximately 3,175 individuals live in one of seven developmental centers operated by the division.

The Central Office in Trenton oversees all division operations. All services to the division's consumers are coordinated through the Regional Assistant Director's Offices and Community Services Offices, which are listed at the end of this overview

mental years, before age 22, and are lifelong conditions that affect a person's ability to live without some assistance. Developmental disabilities include: mental retardation, cerebral palsy, autism, epilepsy, spina bifida and neurological impairments that are most often due to traumatic brain injuries occurring during the developmental stages. Developmental disabilities substantially limit the individual in at least three of the following areas: self-care, learning, mobility, communication, self-direction, economic self-sufficiency and the ability to live independently.

How to apply To apply for services from DDD, an individual must contact the Community Services Office serving the county in which they live. The Intake Office guides applicants through the application process, makes eligibility and service recommendations, and provides information and referrals. Eligibility determinations are made through eight Community Services Offices.

Services

The availability of services depends upon current resources and the types of available services vary in each county. A division case manager is assigned to each individual to assist in coordinating services and supports. In addition to case management, DDD provides guardianship services to protect an individual's rights and to ensure that care and treatment are appropriate. DDD also assists parents in becoming legal guardians of their adult children. Other services include: family support, residential services, day programs and supported employment services. Most of these services are provided through contracts with private organizations or individual contractors. Individuals who

receive residential services may be required to contribute towards the cost from their disability benefits or other personal resources.



Recilife choices, the systems change blueprint announced in the fall of 2002, recognizes the need to better assist families caring for members with developmental disabilities at *home*. Real Life choices represents a system change that provides services and supports, while reassuring families that should their needs change - the system will provide for those changing needs. Real Life choices is a multi-year plan which was launched in the fall of 2003, working with families to ensure that they have a personalized and responsive service plan.

DDD has four goals for implementing this systems change:

- Establishing equity in the distribution of resources and services
- ✓ Allowing for more Family and Individual decision-making
- ✓ Allocating comparable resources for comparable levels of need
- Developing individual budgets based on support needs

Also, DDD has partnered with The Family Support Center of New Jersey to offer a *Real Life choices* Resource Database through the Internet. This directory provides families with information about agencies that have been qualified through DDD to provide services and receive payment for those services. You can access the website by going to http://www.fscnj.org via the Internet. If you do not have a computer, then please check with your local library for opportunities to access the Internet.

Waiting lists There currently is a "Community Services Waiting List" for residential programs and a separate "Day Program Waiting List" for adult day or supported employment programs. Individuals are served in the order in which their names were added to the lists.

Community services DDD assists individuals in remaining at home as long as possible by providing support services to individuals and to their families, who are providing care. The division arranges for employment or skill training to support an individual in learning personal or job skills, obtaining a job or becoming involved in the local community. Through what is known as "person-centered planning," an Individual Habilitation Plan (IHP) is developed. The plan takes into consideration an individual's needs, abilities and preferences. It is coordinated by an individual's case manager.

Family Support Family Support is a system of services and supports for persons with developmental disabilities and their families. Services, available from DDD regional offices and/or contracted providers, include in-home and out-of-home respite, cash stipends, assistive devices and recreation. In 1993, New Jersey passed legislation underscoring the role of families in choosing the type of support needed and creating a network of Family Support Planning Councils to identify these needs.

Day programs Day Programs are shifting from self-contained programs to programs that offer greater community participation. DDD is committed to creating a network of supports and activities to meet a variety of needs:

Adult Training Services provide opportunities for people with developmental disabilities to explore personal interests, develop skills, participate in using community resources and make a contribution to their communities.

Extended Employment at Sheltered Workshops, operated by private agencies, are vocational programs that provide contract work such as packaging and assembling products, as well as job counseling and job referral.



Supported Employment Programs Include:

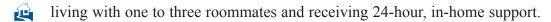
working with a job coach to assist the person with a developmental disability on the job. Support continues for as long as it is needed for the worker to remain employed.

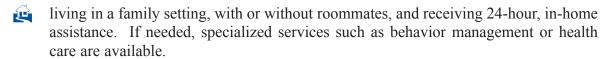
working with a peer group of persons who need an increased level of support provided by additional staff and working as a member of a team.

volunteer work, which enables people with disabilities to gain work experience.

job sampling, which provides the opportunity for individuals with disabilities to try working in various jobs allowing them time to determine their personal preferences, strengths, needs and abilities.

Residential services When it's no longer possible for someone to remain at home, DDD arranges a new home. Some living options include:





- living with a roommate, but instead of on-site support, 24-hour help is available from staff living in the neighborhood.
- custom designing and managing a living arrangement, usually by adding DDD funds to personal resources. Examples include renting a house or condo, acquiring a home, or co-owning a home with other families.
- living without supervision, alone or with roommate, with the security of a 24-hour hotline and assistance on an as-needed basis.
- buying a home, an option for individuals and/or families with sufficient resources, who qualify to buy a home through a program established by DDD and the state Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency





Developmental Centers Residential arrangements are provided in seven state-operated developmental centers, which are institutional settings, where residents live and receive a comprehensive array of services. Each individual has a social worker and an Inter-Disciplinary Team (IDT) of staff to coordinate the appropriate services. Of the following developmental centers, Green Brook Regional Center is dedicated to geriatric care:

North Jersey Developmental Center, Totowa Hunterdon Developmental Center, Clinton Woodbridge Developmental Center Vineland Developmental Center Green Brook Regional Center New Lisbon Developmental Center Woodbine Developmental Center

DDD Key Statistics

Budget

DDD FY 2004 Appropriation	\$1	,091,162,000
State	\$	654,889,000
Federal	\$	397,414,000
Other	\$	38,859,000

Community Services

Number of individuals living in:

Group Homes	3,817
Supervised Apartments	1,061
Supportive Living Programs	505
Skill Development Homes	1,546
Family Care Homes	26
Consumers receiving support services, living in their own home	21,328
Other (Nursing Homes, Boarding Homes, etc.)	1,977
Waiting List: People living at home waiting for Services	2,842

Developmental Centers

Number of Developmental Centers	7
Total number of Developmental Center residents	3,136



Division of Developmental Disabilities Offices and Staff



James W. Smith, Jr., Director (609) 292-7260

Carol Grant, Deputy Director (609) 777-4079

Gregory Fenton, Assistant Director

Operations (609) 984-5502

Central Office

Capital Center, 50 East State Street, PO Box 726, Trenton, NJ 08625-0726

Northern/Upper Central Regions

Gregory Fenton, Acting Regional Assistant Director, 275 Green Brook Road, Green Brook, NJ 08812 (732) 968-4222

Northern - Community Services Offices, Shawn McInerney, Regional Administrator

Serving Morris, Sussex and Warren Counties 1B Laurel Dr., Flanders, NJ 07836

1B Laurel Dr., Flanders, NJ 0/836 (973) 927-2600

Serving Bergen, Hudson and Passaic Counties 100 Hamilton Plaza, 7th Floor, Paterson, NJ 07505 (973) 977-4004

Upper Central - Community Services Offices, Patricia A. Fettweis, Regional Administrator

Serving Union County & Somerset for Intake

59 Main Street West Orange, NJ 07052 (973) 324-2000 Serving Somerset for Case Management 275 Green Brook Road, 2nd Floor Green Brook, NJ 08812 (732) 968-8100

Serving Essex County

153 Halsey St., 2nd Floor, PO Box 47013, Newark, NJ 07101 (973) 693-5080

Developmental Centers

North Jersey Developmental Center

Bruce Werkheiser, Chief Executive Officer Box 169, Minisink Road Totowa, NJ 07511 (973) 256-1700

Hunterdon Developmental Center

William A. Wall, Chief Executive Officer PO Box 4003, 40 Pittstown Road Clinton, NJ 08809-4003 (908) 735-4031

Green Brook Regional Center

(Vacant), Chief Executive Officer (Anthony Brudisi, on site manager) 275 Green Brook Rd., Green Brook, NJ 08812 (732) 968-6000

Lower Central/Southern Regions

Robert C. Lowe II, Regional Assistant Director Capital Center, 50 East State Street, PO Box 726, Trenton, NJ 08625-0726 (609) 292-8305

Lower Central - Community Services Offices, Patricia M. Merk, Regional Administrator

Serving Hunterdon, Mercer and Middlesex Counties 222 So. Warren St., 2nd Floor, PO Box 700 Trenton, NJ 08625-0700 (609) 292-4500 Serving **Monmouth and Ocean Counties** Juniper Plaza, Suite I-J 3499 Rt. 9 North, Freehold, NJ 07728 (732) 863-4500

Southern - Community Services Offices, Charlotte O'Neill, Regional Administrator

Serving **Burlington and Camden Counties** 101 Haddon Ave., Suite 17 Camden, NJ 08103-1485 (856) 614-3400 Serving Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem Counties
40 North White Horse Pike
Hammonton, NJ 08037
(609) 561-5070

Developmental Centers

Woodbridge Developmental Center

John Dougherty, Chief Executive Officer PO Box 189, 1277 Rahway Avenue Woodbridge, NJ 07095 (732) 499-5500

Vineland Developmental Center

Eloise Hawkins, Chief Executive Officer 1676 East Landis Avenue, PO Box 1513 Vineland, NJ 08362-1513 (856) 696-6000

New Lisbon Developmental Center

Jeffrey Schroeder, Chief Executive Officer PO Box 130, Route 72 New Lisbon, NJ 08064 (609) 726-1000

Woodbine Developmental Center

Robert Armstrong, Chief Executive Officer DeHirsh Avenue Woodbine, NJ 08270 (609) 861-2164

Bureau of Guardianship Services

6

Kimberly R. Friend, Bureau Chief Division of Developmental Disabilities Capital Center, 50 East State St. PO Box 726, Trenton, NJ 08625-0726 (609) 292-0055

Peggy Dervitz, Supervisor, Northern Region DDD Bureau of Guardianship Services 153 Halsey St. PO Box 47009, Newark, NJ 07102 (973) 648-4638 Mary Beth Seiler, Supervisor, Central Region DDD Bureau of Guardianship Services Capital Center, 50 East State St. PO Box 726, Trenton, NJ 08625-0726 (609) 777-3566

Brenda Fields, Supervisor, Southern Region DDD Bureau of Guardianship Services 860 North Orchard Road PO Box 1513 Vineland, NJ 08362-1513 (856) 690-5260

3/03



State of New Jersey James E. McGreevey, Governor

Department of Human Services James M. Davy, Commissioner

Division of Developmental Disabilities James W. Smith, Jr., Director